

**CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN (Bitterne) OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION (Hedge End) ST. BRIGID (West End)**

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Registered Charity number 1199568

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19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

11<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## *Jesus, the Bread of Life*

### **For the 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B**

We normally think of the prophets as strong, courageous persons, prepared to withstand any opposition rather than compromise the truth of God's word. However, in today's first reading we meet Elijah, one of the greatest prophets of Israel, 'at the end of his tether.' Seeking to escape the wrath of Jezebel, the wife of King Ahab, he flees into the desert in fear of his life. Jezebel threatened to kill him just as he had killed the priests of the Baal cult that she had introduced to Israel. So, we find this mighty prophet alone in the desert, physically and spiritually exhausted, and asking God to let him die. But God has other plans for him. An angel of the Lord comes to him with baked bread and a jar of water and urges him to get up and eat. Strengthened in body and spirit, Elijah continued his journey, walking 'for forty days and forty nights, until he reached the mountain of God' (1 Kgs 19:8).

Today's gospel passage continues the theme of Jesus as 'the bread of life,' linking it to his life-giving death on the Cross. Unlike the manna that nourished the Israelites temporarily during their sojourn in the desert, Jesus is the 'bread come down from heaven,' giving eternal life. But this bread is the bread we receive in the Eucharist. In the Eucharist, we commemorate and re-enact the greatest act of love the world has ever known. Jesus' last act before his death on Calvary was to share a meal with those he had chosen – his Last Supper. During this meal, he takes bread and wine, blesses them and gives them to his disciples saying: 'Take and eat; this is my body... Take and drink; this is the cup of my blood. Do this as a memorial of me.' The meaning of Christ's last meal is inseparable from his sacrificial death, his perfect act of love. Love is manifested supremely in self-sacrifice: 'There is no greater love than this: that a person would lay down his life for the sake of his friends' (Jn 15:13).

### **For the 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

For some weeks now, our readings especially, the gospel have continued to tell us that Jesus is the bread of life. This is simply to remind us of the importance of the Holy Eucharist in our Christian life. The Holy Mother Church teaches that: "The Eucharist is the efficacious sign and sublime cause of that communion in the divine life and, that unity of the people of God by which the Church is kept in being" (CCC 1325). Eucharist means thanksgiving. So, today filled with the Holy Spirit, we give thanks to God for this precious gift.

In our first reading today, God who himself is Wisdom, invites us to his banquet. However, only the humble can appreciate and take advantage of this invitation. Those who are wise based on worldly standards cannot understand this mystery. The Eucharist is a special banquet where Christ is both the giver and the gift. Also, He is both the priest and the sacrificial lamb.

In today's gospel when Christ said: "I am the living bread come down from heaven, anyone who eats this bread will live forever..." the Jews became enraged. The reason is simple. They were full of pride and lacked heavenly wisdom. They could not comprehend what Christ meant. They refused to be humbled, in order to become wise in the ways of God.

At times, some of us act like the Jews of Jesus' day. This is by assuming that we can analyze and comprehend this great mystery of Faith only with our limited human wisdom. So, like the Jews, some of us still wonder: "How could He give us His body and blood to eat and drink?" Is Christ really present in the Eucharist?

Hence, Paul warns us today: "Be careful about the sort of lives you live, like intelligent and not senseless people...do not be thoughtless, but recognize the will of the Lord...So that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God..." Only intelligent and thoughtful people see and encounter Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

**I wish you all a very Blessed Sunday**

*Fr. Elijah*

### 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year – 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Welcome to Fr Kevin, who will be celebrating masses at all three churches on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>.

- 9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)  
*Callaghan Wedding Anniversary*
- 11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*For Cheryl Rosario & Nicholas, for good health*
- 5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)  
*For Nora who is celebrating her 80th birthday*
- 6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*Polish Mass*

### 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year – 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024

- 9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)  
*Ian Saxby RIP*
- 11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*John Malarkey RIP*
- 5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)  
*For Ann Cooper*
- 6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*Polish Mass*

### Weekday Mass Times (13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> August)

**OLA** – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

**CKSC** – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

**SB** – St Brigid (West End)

Tue 13<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **OLA**

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **SB** *Teresa & Rodger Carrington*

Thur 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **CKSC** *In thanksgiving*

7.00pm **OLA** *Feast of the Assumption of  
our Blessed Mother  
For the people*

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **OLA**

Sat 17<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **CKSC** *For the people*

### Weekday Mass Times (20<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> August)

Tue 20<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **OLA**

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> 10.00am **SB**

Thur 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.00am **CKSC** *Callaghan family intentions*

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> 10.00am **OLA** *For the people*

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **CKSC** *In praise and thanksgiving for  
many blessings on myself,  
friends & family, by Joan St  
Omer*

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 9.15am **OLA**

11.00am **CKSC** *For the people*

5.30pm **SB**

6.00pm **CKSC** *Polish Mass*

**Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tues – Fri)**  
**Sacrament of Confession is available on request**

Please consider offering Mass Intentions for families and friends (contact Fr. Elijah or Parish Office)

### Our Lady of the Assumption The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Holy Mass will be celebrated on the Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother and Patron at The Church of the Assumption, Hedge End at 7.00pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

After Mass we will continue the celebration in the hall with a ‘Finger-Food American Supper’ together with a glass of celebration fizz together, of course, with tea, coffee or soft drink.

Please bring along a plate of ‘finger food or nibbles’ to share and come along to celebrate with us, this very special Feast Day of our Patron at The Church of the Assumption.

We look forward to welcoming you. God Bless

### First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation for 2024/25

If you have a child who will be in YEAR 4 OR ABOVE IN SEPTEMBER 2024, who would like to attend preparation sessions to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the First Time in 2025, registration is taking place over the summer.

Please complete a registration form (available at the back of our three churches) and send it in to the Parish Office.

The Closing Date for acceptance of Registration Forms is SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024. There will be a Parents Introductory Meeting during the early part of October (exact date to be confirmed later).

Sessions will begin in October 2024, leading to 1st Holy Communion being celebrated on the Sunday of the Feast of Corpus Christi which will be Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025.

We look forward to welcoming you. In the meantime, we wish all our children and families a safe and happy summer break. God Bless you all.

### Baptism of William and James Daniels

We welcome William and James Daniels who will be baptised at Christ the King & St Colman, Bitterne on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August during the 11.00am Mass.

Please keep William, James and their family in your prayers.

## CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

**OLA** – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

**CKSC** – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

**SB** – St Brigid (West End)

Thu 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am-12pm <b>Prayer Group</b> (CKSC) 10am-12 noon <b>Open Church</b> (OLA)
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm <b>Choir Practise</b> in church hall (CKSC)
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tea, Coffee, Biscuits</b> after Holy Mass (SB) 12.30-2pm <b>Youth Meeting</b> (CKSC)
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am-12pm <b>Table Tennis</b> (OLA Hall) 7.30-9pm <b>Growing in Faith</b> (OLA)
Thu 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am-12pm <b>Prayer Group</b> (CKSC) 10am-12 noon <b>Open Church</b> (OLA) 7.00pm – <b>Feast of the Assumption Holy Mass followed by</b> “Finger-Food American Supper” (OLA Hall)
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Children's Liturgy</b> during Mass (OLA)
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am-12pm <b>Table Tennis</b> (OLA Hall) 7.30-9pm <b>Growing in Faith</b> (OLA)
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.00-8.30pm <b>Carer's Group</b> (OLA Hall)
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am-12pm <b>Prayer Group</b> (CKSC) 10am-12 noon <b>Open Church</b> (OLA)
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm <b>Choir Practise</b> in church hall (CKSC)
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	12.30-2pm <b>Youth Meeting</b> (CKSC)
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am-12pm <b>Table Tennis</b> (OLA Hall) 7.30-9pm <b>Growing in Faith</b> (OLA) Sun

### Recurring Events

**Our Lady of The Assumption** (Hedge End)

- **Tea Coffee, Biscuits, Friendly Chat** (and often cake) in the hall every Sunday after Holy Mass
- **Children's Liturgy** during Mass every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month (except in July/August)
- **Carers Group** on third Wednesday of every Month from 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- **Growing in Faith** every Tuesday evening 7:30-9pm
- **Table Tennis** every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12pm
- **Open Church** every Thursday from 10am-12pm

**Christ the King & St. Colman** (Bitterne)

- **Prayer Group** every Thursday 10.30am-12 noon
- **Children's Liturgy** for 4 to 7-year-olds every Sunday
- **Faith on Fire** 8-9pm last Wednesday of every month except **March to August, December**
- **Youth Meetings** 12:30 -14:00 on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of every month
- **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat** in the hall every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month
- **Choir practice in hall** - 7:30pm on 2nd & 4th Friday each month. All welcome.

**St Brigids (West End)**

- **Tea, coffee & cake** every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month after Mass

If you would like a future event to be included in the Calendar of Events, kindly advise the Parish office.

## Our Lady of the Assumption 2025 - Our Big Year!

On Ascension Day, Pope Francis ‘launched’ the Jubilee Year 2025 with the theme “Pilgrims of Hope”.

Also, in April 2025, Our Lady of the Assumption will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our Church building (previously the church was in what is now our hall).

We need your ideas as to how, we can celebrate these 2 significant milestones. Please consider and pray on “What are our aspirations and hopes for the future of our church?”

If you are interested and/or have ideas but couldn't make the meeting, please speak with Marion or Helen.

## Continuing Support of the Church

Please consider setting up a **standing order**.

For Christ the King & St Colman:

**Account Name:** CDP Christ the King & St Colman

**Sort code:** 30-93-04

**Account Number:** 00887553

For Our Lady of the Assumption and St Brigid:

**Account Name:** CDP Hedge End Our Lady

**Sort code:** 30-93-04

**Account Number:** 00879747

Please use your surname as a reference.

Make out cheques for Fr Elijah to Rev Fru N Elijah

Thank you for your support.

## Sunday's Readings: 11<sup>th</sup> August

### Daily Readings

<https://universalis.com/europe.english/20240811/mass.htm>

### Reflections

<http://www.mycatholic.com/>

### Diocesan eNews

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

### UK Catholic Newspapers

<https://www.churchpaper.co.uk>

## Sunday's Readings: 18<sup>th</sup> August

### Daily Readings

<https://universalis.com/europe.english/20240818/mass.htm>

### Reflections

<http://www.mycatholic.com/>

### Diocesan eNews

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

### UK Catholic Newspapers

<https://www.churchpaper.co.uk>

**Faith on Fire** will start again on 18th September in Christ the King and St Colman church 7.30pm to 9pm. All Young people from secondary age upwards are welcome. For more information contact Deirdre 07828810009

### **Update on the Porch Repairs at Hedge End**

A surveyor's report has recommended further work to the church porch.

Quotes for this work have been submitted to the finance committee and the selected supplier is to commence work shortly. This work is expected to cost £1,950.

### **OPEN CHURCH:**

Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Hedge End is open for private prayer every Thursday from 10am until midday. To join the rota, please contact Pauline or Jane.

### **Keep in touch with Portsmouth Diocese**

@PortsmouthRC Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

@PortsmouthRC

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>

If you have news to share, contact:

[communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### **Safeguarding E-Learning**

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) has developed the Learning Management System (LMS) as an online learning platform specifically for the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Training is now aligned with the nature of the role the volunteer is undertaking and 3 modules are available:

Level 1 – Casual volunteers (roles with no DBS eligibility).

Level 2 – Volunteers who hold a role with DBS eligibility but do not require a check of the barred list.

Level 3 – Volunteers who hold a role with DBS eligibility, including a check of the barred list.

Level 3 is mandatory for anyone who holds a role within the parish working with either

- children
- adults at risk or those who might otherwise be vulnerable.

**Training must be refreshed every 2 years.**

If your training is not up to date, please register for either face-to-face or on-line training at:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/safeguarding/training/>

Attendees will receive certificates on completion of their training to support continuing ministry.

### **Newsletters in August**

With the holiday season upon us we are planning to have fortnightly newsletters throughout August. Newsletters will be published for the 11th and 25th August, so if you have something which you'd like advertising please keep this in mind.